

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

Diverse perspectives do not mean a "plurality" of corporately-owned voices. As Americans, we are threatened with the loss of our ability to participate in public matters when the only avenues to such participation occur through corporately-owned media. Americans need to communicate with one another en masse to affect their own public lives. This means that we need to guarantee independent media outlets, public access cable and radio outlets, and community media. Only in these public places can Americans truly participate in a public, democratic forum of ideas.

I support the retention of current ownership laws. In addition, I respectfully request that more hearings are held on this matter to allow for more public participation in this crucial arena of our governance.

Thank you.
David Hollar